



12013/62502

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : PATNAIK et al.
SERIAL NO. : 09/885,361
FILED : June 20, 2001
FOR : EPTFE CALIBER VASCULAR GRAFTS WITH SIGNIFICANT
PATENCY ENHANCEMENT VIA A SURFACE COATING
WHICH CONTAINS COVALENTLY BONDED HEPARIN
GROUP ART UNIT : 3738
EXAMINER : Prebilic, P.
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

S I R:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed October 3, 2002, having a one-month shortened statutory period for response, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-2 and 8-9 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter claimed therein and add the following new claims:

--10. An implantable medical device having at least one hydrophobic surface, said surface having a bio-active coating bound thereto, said bio-active coating containing a polymer backbone having a carboxylic acid pendent group and a hydrophilic spacer having at least one amine group at each of its first and second ends, said at least one amine group forming an amide bond between said carboxylic acid pendant group of said backbone and said spacer, said hydrophilic spacer further being